1. (currently amended) A printer comprising:

a printing mechanism for printing images;

a cutter;

a sensor suitable for sensing authentication characteristics of a document and outputting a sensor signal corresponding to the sensed characteristics; [[and]]

a controller operable to

send authentication data representing the sensor signal to a server,

cause the cutter to cut the document to invalidate the document, and

send data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server; and

a network interface for coupling the printer to a network,

wherein the controller is operable to

send the authentication data to the server via the network, and

send the data representing completion to the server via the network.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The printer of claim 2, wherein the controller is further operable to

receive an encoding data from the server via the network,

encode the authentication data by using the encoding data, and

send the encoded authentication data to the server via the network.

4. (original) The printer of claim 3, wherein the controller is further operable to

in response to receiving a request for cancellation of the document from a user, send data representing the request for cancellation of the document to the server via the network,

receive a request for the authentication data from the server via the network,

cause the sensor to scan the document to obtain the authentication data in response to the request for the authentication data,

receive a request to cut the document from the server via the network, and

cut the document in response to the request to cut.

5. (original) The printer of claim 4, wherein the printing mechanism includes a thermal transfer mechanism.

6. (original) The printer of claim 1, further comprising:

an opening provided on the printer into which a user inserts the document; and

a transport mechanism for transporting the document from the opening to the cutter.

7. (original) The printer of claim 6, wherein the printer retains the document cut by the cutter within a housing of the printer.

8. (original) The printer of claim 1, wherein the sensor is selected from a group comprising a photo sensor, an ultraviolet light sensor, and a magnetic sensor.

9. (original) A printer comprising:

means for printing images;

means for cutting;

means for sensing authentication characteristics of a document and outputting a sensor signal corresponding to the sensed characteristics; and

means for

sending authentication data representing the sensor signal to a server,

causing the cutter to cut the document to invalidate the document, and

sending data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server.

10. (original) A method for invalidating a document, comprising:

sensing authentication characteristics of the document;

outputting a sensor signal corresponding to the sensed characteristics;

sending authentication data representing the sensor signal to a server;

causing a cutter to cut the document to invalidate the document; and

sending data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

sending the authentication data to the server via a network, and

send the data representing completion to the server via the network.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

receiving an encoding data from the server via the network,

encoding the authentication data by using the encoding data, and

sending the encoded authentication data to the server via the network.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

in response to receiving a request for cancellation of the document from a user, sending data representing the request for cancellation of the document to the server via the network,

receiving a request for the authentication data from the server via the network,

causing the sensor to scan the document to obtain the authentication data in response to the request for the authentication data,

receiving a request to cut the document from the server via the network, and

cutting the document in response to the request to cut.

14. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising transporting the document from an opening to the cutter, the opening being provided on a printer into which a user inserts the document.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, further comprising retaining the document cut by a cutter within a housing of the printer.

16. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the sensing is performed by at least one of a photo sensor, an ultraviolet light sensor, and a magnetic sensor.

17. (currently amended) A computer program product for invalidating a document, comprising:

a computer readable medium; and

computer readable code stored in the computer readable medium for causing a computer to:

sense authentication characteristics of the document;

output a sensor signal corresponding to the sensed characteristics;

send authentication data representing the sensor signal to a server;

cause a cutter to cut the document to invalidate the document; [[and]]

send data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server;

a network interface for coupling the printer to a network,

send the authentication data to the server via a network coupled to the printer by a network interface, and

send the data representing completion to the server via the network.